

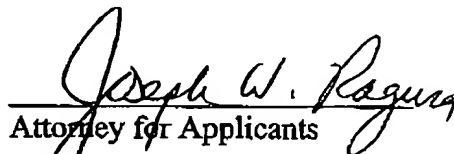
of the divided areas on the inner side of the ends of the print head.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Notice of Allowance Action dated April 23, 2002. Claims 1-24 are pending in this application, having been previously allowed. Applicants enclose an RCE that requests a three-month suspension of action. Applicants include with the RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.114 (c), a Preliminary Amendment. The Preliminary Amendment amends certain sections of the specification and the Abstract. Applicants plan on submitting additional papers to the Examiner regarding this application and therefore Applicants respectfully requests that *no* action be taken by the Examiner on this application until Applicants submit these additional papers, unless otherwise notified by Applicants.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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*Appl. No. 09/629,093*  
*Atty. Docket No. 01272.020422.*

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION**

The paragraph starting at page 25, line 12 has been amended as follows.

As described above, the tank holder unit, which includes the tank holder H1500, the flow passage forming member H1600, the filter H1700 and the seal rubber H1800, and the print element unit, which includes the print element substrate H1100, the first plate H1200, the electric wiring board H1300 and the second plate H1400, are combined [as] by adhesives to form the print head H1001.

The paragraph starting at page 27, line 18 has been amended as follows.

Figs. 6A and 6B show the scanner M6000 upside down to explain [about] its [outline] construction.

NY\_MAIN 277985 v.1

*Appln. No. 09/629,093*  
*Atty. Docket No. 01272.020422.*

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO ABSTRACT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method [is] are provided to enable high speed printing of an image with high resolution while suppressing degradation of image quality due to white stripes and density variations. In an ink jet printing apparatus using a [multipass] multi-pass printing system, [one and] the same scan print area is divided at a predetermined pitch and the printing duties of the divided areas determined by the thinning out mask pattern are set to different values. [Of] In regard to the same scan print area formed by a plurality of the main scans, the divided areas corresponding to the ends of the print head have their printing duties set smaller than those of the divided areas on the inner side of the ends of the print head.

NY\_MAIN 277889 v 1